

# IOWA BOARD OF MEDICAL EXAMINERS

## PRESS RELEASE

**For release, October 3, 2002**

Recently, the Iowa Board of Medical Examiners took the following action:

**Frank J. Filippelli, D.O.**, a 44 year-old physician from Cedar Rapids, Iowa, entered into a Settlement Agreement with the Board to resolve pending disciplinary charges. Dr. Filippelli was charged with violating Iowa law and engaging in unprofessional conduct. Dr. Filippelli pleaded guilty to a criminal charge of illegal possession of a controlled substance, and inappropriately possessed several potentially dangerous pharmaceuticals. Dr. Filippelli was issued a Citation and Warning, ordered to pay a \$5,000 fine, ordered to complete an ethics program, and his Iowa medical license was suspended for six (6) months. At the conclusion of the suspension, Dr. Filippelli's license will be placed on probation for a period of five (5) years under certain terms and conditions.

**Charles P. Pritchard, D.O.**, a 64 year-old physician from Bettendorf, Iowa, was charged by the Board with inappropriately self-prescribing and/or self-dispensing controlled substances, habitual intoxication and the inability to practice medicine and surgery with reasonable skill and safety due to the excessive use of drugs or alcohol. A hearing in this matter is scheduled for November 13, 2002.

**Debra K. Rainey, M.D.**, a 46 year-old physician from Wheatland, Wyoming, was charged by the Board with the inability to practice medicine and surgery with reasonable skill and safety as a result of a mental or physical condition and with violating a lawful order of the Board. The Board received information indicating Dr. Rainey may suffer from a mental condition, which impairs her ability to practice medicine in a safe manner. On January 16, 2002, the Board ordered Dr. Rainey to complete a comprehensive evaluation within thirty days. Dr. Rainey failed to complete the evaluation in violation of the Board Order. A hearing in this matter is scheduled for November 13, 2002.

**Stephen G. Weiss, M.D.**, a 64 year-old physician from Davenport, Iowa, entered into a Settlement Agreement with the Board to resolve pending disciplinary charges. Dr. Weiss was charged by the Board with the inability to practice medicine with reasonable skill and safety as a result of a mental or physical condition, engaging in unethical or unprofessional conduct and violating a lawful order of the Board. Dr. Weiss was disciplined by the Board in 1991, due to concerns that he engaged in abusive and threatening behavior in the practice of medicine, that he suffered from a mental or physical condition, which impaired his ability to practice medicine in a safe manner, and his Iowa license was placed on indefinite probation. The Board terminated the probation in December 1994. The Board received information indicating Dr. Weiss recently engaged in a pattern of inappropriate, unprofessional and threatening behavior and that he suffers from a mental or physical condition, which impairs his ability to practice medicine with reasonable skill and safety. On August 2, 2002, the Board suspended Dr. Weiss' Iowa medical license after concluding Dr. Weiss' continued practice of medicine posed a significant and immediate danger to the public health, safety, or welfare. Under the terms of the most recent Settlement Agreement, Dr. Weiss was ordered to pay a \$5,000 fine, issued a Citation and Warning, and his Iowa medical license was indefinitely suspended. Dr. Weiss may not return to the practice of medicine under his Iowa medical license until a Board-approved healthcare professional determines that he is capable of practicing medicine in a safe manner. Upon Board approval, Dr. Weiss's license may be reinstated and his license will be placed on indefinite probation under certain terms and conditions.